

CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of human authentication in a system comprising a computer and a mouse, said method comprising a: detecting mouse micromotion data of a user by gathering a plurality of samples per mouse eliek micromotion, wherein the mouse micromotion comprises any movement, track, or trace of the mouse as the user manipulates the mouse to move a corresponding cursor from one point to another point; b: obtaining at least one metric ~~of mouse movement information~~ characterizing the user from the mouse micromotion data; c: comparing the metric against a database; and d: authenticating the user.
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein the method provides information regarding the user's class identity.
3. (Previously Presented) A method according claim 1 wherein the step of detecting the mouse micromotion data of the user is executed without the user's awareness.
4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the database comprises an aggregated representation of previously detected mouse micromotion data.
5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the step of obtaining the at least one metric ~~of mouse movement information~~ comprises obtaining a plurality of metrics from the mouse micromotion data and a comparison with the database, of mouse movement information and wherein the comparison between the plurality of metrics of mouse movement information and the database uses at least one eigenvector derived from the plurality of metrics ~~of mouse movement information~~.
6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the mouse micromotion data of the user are in response to a display on the computer's screen.

7. (Currently Amended) An information processing system for identifying its users, the system comprising: an arrangement of sensors for detecting user mouse micromotion data by gathering a plurality of samples per mouse click micromotion, wherein the mouse micromotion comprises any movement, track or trace of a mouse as the users manipulate the mouse to move a corresponding cursor from one point to another point; a memory unit for storing the detected user mouse micromotion data; a computational element for obtaining at least one metric ~~from the user mouse~~ from the mouse micromotion data and manipulating the metric; and a database.

8. (Original) A system according to claim 7 wherein a target pattern is used to elicit information known only to an authorized user.

9. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 8 wherein a target pattern that changes from a session to session is used to elicit the user mouse micromotion data.

10. (Original) A system according to claim 7 wherein said information processing system is distributed over a plurality of networked devices.

11. (Original) A system according to claim 7 is used for online commercial transactions.

12. (Original) A system according to claim 7 is used for online voting.

13. (Original) A system according to claim 7 is used for network access.

14. (Original) A system according to claim 7 is used to authorize the release of sensitive personal records.

15. (Original) A system according to claim 7 wherein said information processing system is a single computer.